

Message Text

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15
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSM-03 OMB-01 /055 W
----- 085533

O R 131012Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6220
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4372

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PFOR, KU, IZ
SUBJ: KUWAITI-IRAQI RELATIONS RUFFLED BY IRAQI PROVOCATIONS

REF: KUWAIT 4281

1. ROUTINE KUWAITI CABINET MEETING SEPTEMBER 12 APPARENTLY
DEVOTED PARTLY TO DISCUSSION OF IRAQI REACTIONS TO GOK GOVERN-
MENTAL SHAKEUP. (REFTEL REPORTED IRAQI PRESS ATTACKS.) AL QABAS,
SEPT 13 REPORTS THAT CABINET DISCUSSED REPORT FROM KUWAITI
AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD AND "DESIRE OF KUWAIT TO HAVE RELATIONS
BASED ON BROTHERHOOD AND MUTUAL RESPECT." KUWAITI AMBASSADOR
IN BAGHDAD, KHALID AL MUSALLAM, REPORTEDLY ARRIVED KUWAIT ON
"URGENT MISSION" SEPTEMBER 12; HE REPORTEDLY TOLD NEWSMAN
THAT HE HAD INFORMED THE GOI ABOUT THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND
OTHER MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOK, HAD EXPLAINED TO GOI THAT
KUWAITI POLICIES IN "INTERNATIONAL AND ARAB FIELDS" HAD
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NOT CHANGED, AND HAD TOLD IRAQIS THAT KUWAIT WANTS GOOD

RELATIONS WITH ALL ARAB STATES (AL ANBA, SEPT 13).

2. COMMENT. ACCORDING TO ONE RECENT TRAVELER, KUWAITIS HAVE TOUGHENED ENTRY PROCEDURES AT IRAQ FRONTIER ENTRY POINT NEAR SAFWAN, AND HAVE ADDED SPOT ROAD-CHECKS ON MAIN ROAD INTO KUWAIT. OTHER REPORTING NOTES TENSION IN GOK CIRCLES ABOUT PROVOCATIVE IRAQI TROOP ACTIVITY ON BORDER. KUWAITI FONMIN'S LAST MINUTE FAILURE TO APPEAR IN DAMASCUS, TO JOIN IN EFFORTS OF ARAB LEAGUE FONMIN COMMITTEE TO PREPARE FOR ARAB SUMMIT, MAY DERIVE FROM KUWAITI APPREHENSIONS ABOUT IRAQI INTENTIONS. KUWAIT PRESS (AL SIYASAH, SEPT 13) INDICATES THAT KUWAITI MFA HAS LET IT BE KNOWN THAT KUWAITI FONMIN WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN DAMASCUS EFFORT DURING THE NEXT WEEK OR SO. WE FIND THIS PECULIAR, IN LIGHT OF HIGH PRIORITY WHICH GOK OBVIOUSLY PLACES ON PAVING THE WAY FOR ARAB SUMMIT. IRAQI PRESS AND OTHER PROVOCATIONS MAY HAVE CREATED AN EVEN HIGHER PRIORITY MATTER FOR FONMIN'S ATTENTION. MAESTRONE

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